AV-5
Web
3-18

Application for Agriculture, Horticulture, and Forestry Present-Use Value Assessment

(G.S. 105-277.2 through G.S. 105-277.7)

County of _____ **, NC** **Tax Year** _____

Full Name of Owner(s)

Mailing Address of Owner

City **State** **Zip Code**

Home Telephone Number **Work Telephone Number** **Ext.** **Cell Phone Number**

Instructions

Application Deadline: This application must be filed during the regular listing period, or within 30 days of a notice of a change in valuation, or within 60 days of a transfer of the land.

Where to Submit Application: Submit this application to the county tax assessor where this property is located. County tax assessor addresses and telephone numbers can be found online at: https://www.ncdor.gov/documents/north-carolina-county-assessors-list. **DO NOT submit this application to the North Carolina Department of Revenue.**

- Office Use Only:

This application is for: (check all that apply)

☐ **AGRICULTURE (includes Aquaculture)** ☐ **HORTICULTURE** ☐ **FORESTRY**

Enter the Parcel Identification Number, acreage breakdown, and acreage total for each tax parcel included in this application:

PARCEL ID	OPEN LAND in Production	OPEN LAND not in Production	WOOD LAND	WASTE LAND	CRP LAND	HOME SITE	OTHER (Describe in Comments)	TOTAL ACRES

Comments:

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Does the applicant own property in other counties that is also in present-use value and is within 50 miles of this property? If **YES**, list the county or counties and parcel identification number(s):

County: Parcel ID:

County: Parcel ID:

IMPORTANT!

AGRICULTURE and HORTICULTURE applications with LESS than 20 acres of woodland generally need to complete PARTS 1, 2, and 4.

AGRICULTURE and HORTICULTURE applications with MORE than 20 acres of woodland generally need to complete PARTS 1, 2, 3, and 4.

FORESTRY applications need to complete PARTS 1, 3, and 4.

ADDITIONALLY, applications for CONTINUED USE of existing present-use value classification need to complete PART 5.

Please contact the Tax Assessor's office if you have questions about which parts should be completed.

Part 1. Ownership

On what date did the applicant become the owner of the property? **DATE:**

If owned less than four full years on January 1, provide: **Name of Previous Owner:**

How the Applicant is Related to the Previous Owner:

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Did one of the applicants reside on the property on January 1 of the year for which this application is made?

If **YES**, provide name of resident:

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Are any of the acres leased out to a farmer? If **YES**, indicate: Number of acres leased out:

Name of farmer leasing the land: Phone:

Choose the legal form of ownership from "a - e" below, and answer the questions, if any, for that ownership:

a. One Individual **b. Husband and Wife** (as tenants by the entirety)

c. Business Entity. (Circle one: Corporation, Limited Liability Company, Partnership) List all the direct shareholders, members, or partners of the business entity and their farming activities:

Member: Farming Activities:

Member: Farming Activities:

Member: Farming Activities:

Member: Farming Activities:

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Are any of the direct shareholders, members, or partners either a business entity or trust (i.e. not an individual)? If YES, you must attach a breakdown of those business entities or trusts until you reach the individual level of ownership interest and you must describe those individuals' farming activities.

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Once you have reached the individual level of ownership interest, are all of the individuals relatives of each other? (See G.S. 105-277.2(5a) for the definition of relative.)

State the principal business of the business entity:

d. Trust. List the trustee(s), name of the trust, and all of the beneficiaries:

Trustee(s): Name of trust:

Beneficiary: Farming Activities:

Beneficiary: Farming Activities:

Beneficiary: Farming Activities:

Beneficiary: Farming Activities:

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Are any of the beneficiaries either a business entity or trust (i.e. not an individual)? If **YES**, you must attach a breakdown of those business entities or trusts until you reach the individual level of ownership interest and you must describe those individual's farming activities.

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Once you have reached the individual level of ownership interest, are all of the beneficiaries either the trust's creator or relatives of the creator? (See G.S. 105-277.2(5a) for the definition of relative.)

e. Tenants in common. List the tenants and their percentage of ownership (round to the nearest 0.1%):

Owner % Owner %

Owner % Owner %

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ Are any of the tenants either a business entity or trust? If **YES**, you must make a copy of this page for each business entity or trust. You must complete the business entity section only or trust section only for each tenant, as appropriate, labeling each copy with the name of the business entity or trust.

The Tax Assessor may contact you for additional information after reviewing this application.

Part 2. Agriculture and Horticulture

For the past three years and for each tax parcel within the farm unit, enter the agricultural or horticultural products actually produced on the land and the gross income from the sale of the products, including livestock, poultry, and aquatic species. **INCOME INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION.**

If payments are received from any governmental soil conservation or land retirement program, indicate the acres and amount of income in the table below. Provide the name of the program in the Product column.

Do not include income received from the rental of the land. Income must be from the sale of the product.

	ONE YEAR AGO 20			TWO YEARS AGO 20			THREE YEARS AGO 20		
Parcel ID	Product	Acres	Income	Product	Acres	Income	Product	Acres	Income
	Totals			Totals			Totals		
	Totals			Totals			Totals		
	Totals			Totals			Totals		
	Totals			Totals			Totals		
	Totals			Totals			Totals		
	Totals			Totals			Totals		

☐ Yes ☐ No ➡ If this application covers a horticultural tract used to grow **Christmas trees**, has a written management plan been prepared? If **YES**, attach a copy. If **NO**, attach a full explanation of your operation that contains at least the following: year each tract was planted, gross income from each tract, site management practices, number of trees per acre, and expected date of harvesting for each tract.

If this application covers an aquatic species farming operation, enter the total pounds produced for commercial sale annually for the last three years: Year 20 ____ : ____ lbs, Year 20 ____ : ____ lbs, Year 20 ____ : ____ lbs

Part 3. Forestry

Attach a complete copy of your forest management plan. Indicate below who prepared the plan:

N.C. Division of Forest Resources **Consulting Forester** **Owner** **Other**

Note: The property must be actively engaged in the commercial growing of trees under a sound management program as of January 1 of the year for which application is made.

Key elements in a written plan for a sound forestland management program are listed below:

1. Management and Landowner Objectives Statement—Long range and short range objectives of owner(s) as appropriate.
2. Location--Include a map or aerial photograph that locates the property described and also delineates each stand referenced in the "Forest Stand(s) Description/Inventory and Stand Management Recommendations" (item 3 below).
3. Forest Stand(s) Description/Inventory and Stand Management Recommendations -- Include a detailed description of various stands within the forestry unit. Each stand description should detail the acreage, species, age, size (tree diameter, basal area, heights), condition (quality and vigor), topography, soils and site index or productivity information. Stand-specific forest management practices needed to sustain productivity, health and vigor must be included with proposed timetable for implementation.
4. Regeneration-Harvest Methods and Dates--For each stand, establish a target timetable for harvest of crop trees, specifying the type of regeneration-harvest (clear cut, seed tree, shelter wood, or selection regeneration systems as applicable).
5. Regeneration Technique--Should include a sound proposed regeneration plan for each stand when harvest of final crop trees is done. Specify intent to naturally regenerate or plant trees.

NOTE: Forest management plans can and should be updated as forest conditions significantly change (e.g. change in product class mix as the stand ages and grows, storm damage, insect or disease attack, timber harvest, thinning, wildfire). The county will audit plans periodically and, to remain eligible for use-value treatment, the plan must be implemented.

Part 4. Affirmation

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT – I (we) the undersigned declare under penalties of law that this application and any attachments hereto have been examined by me (us) and to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief are true and correct. In addition, I (we) fully understand that an ineligible transfer of the property or failure to keep the property actively engaged in commercial production under a sound management program will result in the loss of eligibility. I (we) fully understand that loss of eligibility will result in removal from the program and the immediate billing of deferred taxes.

Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**
Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**
Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**

Part 5. Continued Use *(Complete only if the property is currently in Present-Use Value and you are applying for immediate eligibility under the Continued Use exception. See G.S. 105-277.3(b2)(1) for full details.)*

I certify:
1. **The property is currently in Present-Use Value.**
2. **I intend to continue the current use of the land under which it currently qualifies.**
3. **I understand I will be responsible for all deferred taxes due because of any disqualification.**
4. **I ACCEPT FULL LIABILITY FOR ANY EXISTING DEFERRED TAXES.**

Note: If the property is currently in Present-Use Value and liability is not accepted, the full amount of the deferred taxes will typically be due in the name of the grantor immediately. Liability need not be accepted and no deferred taxes are due for qualifying transfers pursuant to G.S. 105-277.3(b) and (b1). For example, liability does not need to be accepted for qualifying transfers to relatives. However, any deferred taxes existing at the time of transfer will remain a lien on the property. Owners already receiving Present-Use Value on properties not included in this application may wish to review the alternative provisions of G.S. 105-277.3(b2)(2).

Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**
Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**
Signature of Owner (All tenants of a tenancy in common must sign.)	**Title**	**Date**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: ☐ APPROVED ☐ DENIED BY:_____ REASON FOR DENIAL: _____

ORANGE COUNTY TAX OFFICE
228 S CHURTON STREET, SUITE 200
HILLSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27278
Phone 919-245-2100 tax@orangecountync.gov Fax 919-644-3091
Nancy Freeman, Tax Administrator

FOR 2020 PRESENT USE VALUE ASSESSMENT & TAXATION

To be completed by the farmer of the property if other than the owner of the property.

Owner's Name: _____

Parcel ID Number: _____

Farmer's Name: _____

Farmer's Phone Number: _____

Agricultural or Horticultural **Product & Number of Acres** in Production:

For 2019: _____

For 2018: _____

For 2017: _____

Estimated **Gross Income** from Product:

For 2019: _____

For 2018: _____

For 2017: _____

I hereby certify the information above is true and accurate according to my records. I understand that I may be asked to provide proof of this income to support Use Value Assessment and Taxation requirements.

Attending Farmer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Form AV-4
Rev. (12-18)

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES PERTAINING TO PRESENT USE VALUE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION OF AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND FORESTLANDS

§ 105-277.2. Agricultural, horticultural, and forestland – Definitions.

The following definitions apply in G.S. 105-277.3 through G.S. 105-277.7:

(1) Agricultural land. – Land that is a part of a farm unit that is actively engaged in the commercial production or growing of crops, plants, or animals under a sound management program. For purposes of this definition, the commercial production or growing of animals includes the rearing, feeding, training, caring, and managing of horses. Agricultural land includes woodland and wasteland that is a part of the farm unit, but the woodland and wasteland included in the unit must be appraised under the use-value schedules as woodland or wasteland. A farm unit may consist of more than one tract of agricultural land, but at least one of the tracts must meet the requirements in G.S. 105-277.3(a)(1), and each tract must be under a sound management program. If the agricultural land includes less than 20 acres of woodland, then the woodland portion is not required to be under a sound management program. Also, woodland is not required to be under a sound management program if it is determined that the highest and best use of the woodland is to diminish wind erosion of adjacent agricultural land, protect water quality of adjacent agricultural land, or serve as buffers for adjacent livestock or poultry operations.

(1a) Business entity. – A corporation, a general partnership, a limited partnership, or a limited liability company.

(2) Forestland. – Land that is a part of a forest unit that is actively engaged in the commercial growing of trees under a sound management program. Forestland includes wasteland that is a part of the forest unit, but the wasteland included in the unit must be appraised under the use-value schedules as wasteland. A forest unit may consist of more than one tract of forestland, but at least one of the tracts must meet the requirements in G.S. 105-277.3(a)(3), and each tract must be under a sound management program.

(3) Horticultural land. – Land that is a part of a horticultural unit that is actively engaged in the commercial production or growing of fruits or vegetables or nursery or floral products under a sound management program. Horticultural land includes woodland and wasteland that is a part of the horticultural unit, but the woodland and wasteland included in the unit must be appraised under the use-value schedules as woodland or wasteland. A horticultural unit may consist of more than one tract of horticultural land, but at least one of the tracts must meet the requirements in G.S. 105-277.3(a)(2), and each tract must be under a sound management program. If the horticultural land includes less than 20 acres of woodland, then the woodland portion is not required to be under a sound management program. Also, woodland is not required to be under a sound management program if it is determined that the highest and best

use of the woodland is to diminish wind erosion of adjacent horticultural land or protect water quality of adjacent horticultural land. Land used to grow horticultural and agricultural crops on a rotating basis or where the horticultural crop is set out or planted and harvested within one growing season, may be treated as agricultural land as described in subdivision (1) of this section when there is determined to be no significant difference in the cash rental rates for the land.

(4) Individually owned. – Owned by one of the following:

a. An individual.

b. A business entity that meets all of the following conditions:

1. Its principal business is farming agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland. When determining whether an applicant under G.S. 105-277.4 has as its principal business farming agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland, the assessor shall presume the applicant's principal business to be farming agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland if the applicant has been approved by another county for present-use value taxation for a qualifying property located within the other county; provided, however, the presumption afforded the applicant may be rebutted by the assessor and shall have no bearing on the determination of whether the individual parcel of land meets one or more of the classes defined in G.S. 105-277.3(a). If the assessor is able to rebut the presumption, this shall not invalidate the determination that the applicant's principal business is farming agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland in the other county.

2. All of its members are, directly or indirectly, individuals who are actively engaged in farming agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland or a relative of one of the individuals who is actively engaged. An individual is indirectly a member of a business entity that owns the land if the individual is a member of a business entity or a beneficiary of a trust that is part of the ownership structure of the business entity that owns the land.

3. It is not a corporation whose shares are publicly traded, and none of its members are corporations whose shares are publicly traded.

4. If it leases the land, all of its members are individuals and are relatives. Under this condition, "principal business" and "actively engaged" include leasing.

c. A trust that meets all of the following conditions:

1. It was created by an individual who owned the land and transferred the land to the trust.

2. All of its beneficiaries are, directly or indirectly, individuals who are the creator of the trust or a relative of the creator. An individual is indirectly a beneficiary of a trust that owns the land if the individual is a beneficiary of another trust or a member of a business entity that has a beneficial interest in the trust that owns the land.

d. A testamentary trust that meets all of the following conditions:

1. It was created by an individual who transferred to the trust land that qualified in that individual's hands for classification under G.S. 105-277.3.

2. At the date of the creator's death, the creator had no relatives.

3. The trust income, less reasonable administrative expenses, is used exclusively for educational, scientific, literary, cultural, charitable, or religious purposes as defined in G.S. 105-278.3(d). G.S. 105-277.2

e. Tenants in common, if each tenant would qualify as an owner if the tenant were the sole owner. Tenants in common may elect to treat their individual shares as owned by them individually in accordance with G.S. 105-302(c)(9). The ownership requirements of G.S. 105-277.3(b) apply to each tenant in common who is an individual, and the ownership requirements of G.S. 105-277.3(b1) apply to each tenant in common who is a business entity or a trust.

(4a) Member. – A shareholder of a corporation, a partner of a general or limited partnership, or a member of a limited liability company.

(5) Present-use value. – The value of land in its current use as agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland, based solely on its ability to produce income and assuming an average level of management. A rate of nine percent (9%) shall be used to capitalize the expected net income of forestland. The capitalization rate for agricultural land and horticultural land is to be determined by the Use-Value Advisory Board as provided in G.S. 105-277.7.

(5a) Relative. – Any of the following:

a. A spouse or the spouse's lineal ancestor or descendant.

b. A lineal ancestor or a lineal descendant.

c. A brother or sister, or the lineal descendant of a brother or sister. For the purposes of this sub-subdivision, the term brother or sister includes stepbrother or stepsister.

d. An aunt or an uncle.

e. A spouse of an individual listed in paragraphs a. through d. For the purpose of this subdivision, an adoptive or adopted relative is a relative and the term "spouse" includes a surviving spouse.

(6) Sound management program. – A program of production designed to obtain the greatest net return from the land consistent with its conservation and long-term improvement.

(7) Unit. – One or more tracts of agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland. Multiple tracts must be under the same ownership and be of the same type of classification. If the multiple tracts are located within different counties, they must be

within 50 miles of a tract qualifying under G.S. 105-277.3(a). (1973, c. 709, s. 1; 1975, c. 746, s. 1; 1985, c. 628, s. 1; c. 667, ss. 1, 4; 1987, c. 698, s. 1; 1995, c. 454, s. 1; 1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 646, s. 17; 1998-98, s. 24; 2002-184, s. 1; 2004-8, s. 1; 2005-313, ss. 1, 2; 2008-146, s. 2.1; 2015-263, s. 12(a).)

§ 105-277.3. Agricultural, horticultural, and forestland – Classifications.

(a) Classes Defined. – The following classes of property are designated special classes of property under authority of Section 2(2) of Article V of the North Carolina Constitution and must be appraised, assessed, and taxed as provided in G.S. 105-277.2 through G.S. 105-277.7.

(1) Agricultural land. – Individually owned agricultural land consisting of one or more tracts, one of which satisfies the requirements of this subdivision. For agricultural land used as a farm for aquatic species, as defined in G.S. 106-758, the tract must meet the income requirement for agricultural land and must consist of at least five acres in actual production or produce at least 20,000 pounds of aquatic species for commercial sale annually, regardless of acreage. For all other agricultural land, the tract must meet the income requirement for agricultural land and must consist of at least 10 acres that are in actual production. Land in actual production includes land under improvements used in the commercial production or growing of crops, plants, or animals.

To meet the income requirement, agricultural land must, for the three years preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed, have produced an average gross income of at least one thousand dollars ($1,000). Gross income includes income from the sale of the agricultural products produced from the land, grazing fees for livestock, the sale of bees or products derived from beehives other than honey, any payments received under a governmental soil conservation or land retirement program, and the amount paid to the taxpayer during the taxable year pursuant to P.L. 108-357, Title VI, Fair and Equitable Tobacco Reform Act of 2004.

(2) Horticultural land. – Individually owned horticultural land consisting of one or more tracts, one of which consists of at least five acres that are in actual production and that, for the three years preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed, have met the applicable minimum gross income requirement. Land in actual production includes land under improvements used in the commercial production or growing of fruits or vegetables or nursery or floral products. Land that has been used to produce evergreens intended for use as Christmas trees must have met the minimum gross income requirements established by the Department of Revenue for the land. All other horticultural land must have produced an average gross income of at least one thousand dollars ($1,000). Gross income includes income from the sale of the horticultural products produced from the land and any payments received under a governmental soil conservation or land retirement program.

(3) Forestland. – Individually owned forestland consisting of one or more tracts, one of which consists of at least 20 acres that are in actual production and are not included in a farm unit.

(b) Individual Ownership Requirements. – In order to come within a classification described in subsection (a) of this section, land owned by an individual must also satisfy one of the following conditions:

(1) It is the owner's place of residence.

(2) It has been owned by the current owner or a relative of the current owner for the four years preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed.

(3) At the time of transfer to the current owner, it qualified for classification in the hands of a business entity or trust that transferred the land to the current owner who was a member of the business entity or a beneficiary of the trust, as appropriate.

(b1) Entity Ownership Requirements. – In order to come within a classification described in subsection (a) of this section, land owned by a business entity must meet the requirements of subdivision (1) of this subsection and land owned by a trust must meet the requirements of subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(1) Land owned by a business entity must have been owned by one or more of the following for the four years immediately preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed:

a. The business entity.

b. A member of the business entity.

c. Another business entity whose members include a member of the business entity that currently owns the land.

(2) Land owned by a trust must have been owned by the trust or by one or more of its creators for the four years immediately preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed.

(b2) Exceptions to Ownership Requirements. – Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) and (b1) of this section, land may qualify for classification in the hands of the new owner if all of the conditions listed in either subdivision of this subsection are met, even if the new owner does not meet all of the ownership requirements of subsections (b) and (b1) of this section with respect to the land.

(1) Continued use. – If the land qualifies for classification in the hands of the new owner under the provisions of this subdivision, then any deferred taxes remain a lien on the land under G.S. 105-277.4(c), the new owner becomes liable for the deferred taxes, and the deferred taxes become payable if the land fails to meet any other condition or

requirement for classification. Land qualifies for classification in the hands of the new owner if all of the following conditions are met:

a. The land was appraised at its present use value at the time title to the land passed to the new owner.

b. The new owner acquires the land and continues to use the land for the purpose for which it was classified under subsection (a) of this section while under previous ownership.

c. The new owner has timely filed an application as required by G.S. 105-277.4(a) and has certified that the new owner accepts liability for any deferred taxes and intends to continue the present use of the land.

(2) Expansion of existing unit. – Land qualifies for classification in the hands of the new owner if, at the time title passed to the new owner, the land was not appraised at its present-use value but was being used for the same purpose and was eligible for appraisal at its present-use value as other land already owned by the new owner and classified under subsection (a) of this section. The new owner must timely file an application as required by G.S. 105-277.4(a).

(c) Repealed by Session Laws 1995, c. 454, s. 2.

(d) Exception for Conservation Reserve Program. – Land enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program authorized by 16 U.S.C. Chapter 58 is considered to be in actual production, and income derived from participation in the federal Conservation Reserve Program may be used in meeting the minimum gross income requirements of this section either separately or in combination with income from actual production. Land enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program must be assessed as agricultural land if it is planted in vegetation other than trees, or as forestland if it is planted in trees.

(d1) Conservation Exception. – Property that is appraised at its present-use value under G.S. 105-277.4(b) shall continue to qualify for appraisal, assessment, and taxation as provided in G.S. 105-277.2 through G.S. 105-277.7 as long as (i) the property is subject to a qualifying conservation easement that meets the requirements of G.S. 113A-232, without regard to actual production or income requirements of this section; and (ii) the taxpayer received no more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the fair market value of the donated property interest in compensation. Notwithstanding G.S. 105-277.3(b) and (b1), subsequent transfer of the property does not extinguish its present-use value eligibility as long as the property remains subject to a qualifying conservation easement. The exception provided in this subsection applies only to that part of the property that is subject to the easement.

(d2) Wildlife Exception. – When an owner of land classified under this section does not transfer the land and the land becomes eligible for classification under G.S. 105-277.15,

no deferred taxes are due. The deferred taxes remain a lien on the land and are payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.15.

(d3) Site Infrastructure Exception. – When an owner of land classified under this section (i) does not transfer the land and the land becomes eligible for classification under G.S. 105-277.15A or (ii) does transfer the land but the land becomes eligible for classification under G.S. 105-277.15A within six months of the transfer, no deferred taxes are due. The deferred taxes remain a lien on the land and are payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.15A.

(e) Exception for Turkey Disease. – Agricultural land that meets all of the following conditions is considered to be in actual production and to meet the minimum gross income requirements:

(1) The land was in actual production in turkey growing within the preceding two years and qualified for present use value treatment while it was in actual production.

(2) The land was taken out of actual production in turkey growing solely for health and safety considerations due to the presence of Poult Enteritis Mortality Syndrome among turkeys in the same county or a neighboring county.

(3) The land is otherwise eligible for present use value treatment.

(f) Sound Management Program for Agricultural Land and Horticultural Land. – If the property owner demonstrates any one of the following factors with respect to agricultural land or horticultural land, then the land is operated under a sound management program:

(1) Enrollment in and compliance with an agency-administered and approved farm management plan.

(2) Compliance with a set of best management practices.

(3) Compliance with a minimum gross income per acre test.

(4) Evidence of net income from the farm operation.

(5) Evidence that farming is the farm operator's principal source of income.

(6) Certification by a recognized agricultural or horticultural agency within the county that the land is operated under a sound management program.

Operation under a sound management program may also be demonstrated by evidence of other similar factors. As long as a farm operator meets the sound management requirements, it is irrelevant whether the property owner received income or rent from the farm operator.

(g) Sound Management Program for Forestland. – If the owner of forestland demonstrates that the forestland complies with a written sound forest management plan for the production and sale of forest products, then the forestland is operated under a

sound management program. (1973, c. 709, s. 1; 1975, c. 746, s. 2; 1983, c. 821; c. 826; 1985, c. 667, ss. 2, 3, 6.1; 1987, c. 698, ss. 2-5; 1987 (Reg. Sess., 1988), c. 1044, s. 13.1; 1989, cc. 99, 736, s. 1; 1989 (Reg. Sess., 1990), c. 814, s. 29; 1995, c. 454, s. 2; 1997-272, s. 1; 1998-98, s. 22; 2001-499, s. 1; 2002-184, s. 2; 2005-293, s. 1; 2005-313, s. 3; 2007-484, s. 43.7T(c); 2007-497, s. 3.1; 2008-146, s. 2.2; 2008-171, ss. 4, 5; 2011-9, s. 1; 2013-130, s. 2; 2014-3, s. 14.14(a); 2017-108, s. 3(a).)

§ 105-277.4. Agricultural, horticultural and forestland – Application; appraisal at use value; appeal; deferred taxes.

(a) Application. – Property coming within one of the classes defined in G.S. 105-277.3 is eligible for taxation on the basis of the value of the property in its present use if a timely and proper application is filed with the assessor of the county in which the property is located. The application must clearly show that the property comes within one of the classes and must also contain any other relevant information required by the assessor to properly appraise the property at its present-use value. An initial application must be filed during the regular listing period of the year for which the benefit of this classification is first claimed, or within 30 days of the date shown on a notice of a change in valuation made pursuant to G.S. 105-286 or G.S. 105-287. A new application is not required to be submitted unless the property is transferred or becomes ineligible for use-value appraisal because of a change in use or acreage. An application required due to transfer of the land may be submitted at any time during the calendar year but must be submitted within 60 days of the date of the property's transfer.

(a1) Late Application. – Upon a showing of good cause by the applicant for failure to make a timely application as required by subsection (a) of this section, an application may be approved by the board of equalization and review or, if that board is not in session, by the board of county commissioners. An untimely application approved under this subsection applies only to property taxes levied by the county or municipality in the calendar year in which the untimely application is filed. Decisions of the county board may be appealed to the Property Tax Commission.

(b) Appraisal at Present-use Value. – Upon receipt of a properly executed application, the assessor must appraise the property at its present-use value as established in the schedule prepared pursuant to G.S. 105-317. In appraising the property at its present-use value, the assessor must appraise the improvements located on qualifying land according to the schedules and standards used in appraising other similar improvements in the county. If all or any part of a qualifying tract of land is located within the limits of an incorporated city or town, or is property annexed subject to G.S. 160A-37(f1) or G.S. 160A-49(f1), the assessor must furnish a copy of the property record showing both the present-use appraisal and the valuation upon which the property would have been taxed in the absence of this classification to the collector of the city or town. The assessor must also notify the tax collector of any changes in the appraisals or in the eligibility of the property for the benefit of this classification. Upon a request for a

certification pursuant to G.S. 160A-37(f1) or G.S.160A-49(f1), or any change in the certification, the assessor for the county where the land subject to the annexation is located must, within 30 days, determine if the land meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-37(f1)(2) or G.S. 160A-49(f1)(2) and report the results of its findings to the city.

(b1) Appeal. – Decisions of the assessor regarding the qualification or appraisal of property under this section may be appealed to the county board of equalization and review or, if that board is not in session, to the board of county commissioners. An appeal must be made within 60 days after the decision of the assessor. If an owner submits additional information to the assessor pursuant to G.S. 105-296(j), the appeal must be made within 60 days after the assessor's decision based on the additional information. Decisions of the county board may be appealed to the Property Tax Commission.

(c) Deferred Taxes. – Land meeting the conditions for classification under G.S. 105-277.3 must be taxed on the basis of the value of the land for its present use. The difference between the taxes due on the present-use basis and the taxes that would have been payable in the absence of this classification, together with any interest, penalties, or costs that may accrue thereon, are a lien on the real property of the taxpayer as provided in G.S. 105-355(a). The difference in taxes must be carried forward in the records of the taxing unit or units as deferred taxes. The deferred taxes for the preceding three fiscal years are due and payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.1F when the property loses its eligibility for deferral as a result of a disqualifying event. A disqualifying event occurs when the land fails to meet any condition or requirement for classification or when an application is not approved.

(d) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning before July 1, 2016)** Exceptions. – Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, if property loses its eligibility for present use value classification solely due to one of the following reasons, no deferred taxes are due and the lien for the deferred taxes is extinguished:

(1) There is a change in income caused by enrollment of the property in the federal conservation reserve program established under 16 U.S.C. Chapter 58.

(2) The property is conveyed by gift to a nonprofit organization and qualifies for exclusion from the tax base pursuant to G.S. 105-275(12) or G.S. 105-275(29).

(3) The property is conveyed by gift to the State, a political subdivision of the State, or the United States.

(d) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2016)** Set Exception. – Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, if property loses its eligibility for present use value classification solely due to a change in income caused by enrollment of the property in the federal conservation reserve program established under 16 U.S.C. Chapter 58, then no deferred taxes are due and the lien for the deferred taxes is extinguished.

(d1) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2016)** Variable Exception. – Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, if property loses its eligibility for present-use value classification because the property is conveyed to a nonprofit organization and qualifies for exclusion from the tax base pursuant to G.S. 105-275(12) or G.S. 105-275(29) or to the State, a political subdivision of the State, or the United States, then deferred taxes are due as follows:

(1) If the property is conveyed at or below present-use value, then no deferred taxes are due, and the lien for the deferred taxes is extinguished.

(2) If the property is conveyed for more than present-use value, then a portion of the deferred taxes for the preceding three fiscal years is due and payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.1F. The portion due is equal to the lesser of the amount of the deferred taxes or the deferred taxes multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the sale price of the property minus the present-use value of the property and the denominator of which is the true value of the property minus the present-use value of the property.

(e) Repealed by Session Laws 1997-270, s. 3, effective July 3, 1997.

(f) The Department shall publish a present-use value program guide annually and make the guide available electronically on its Web site. When making decisions regarding the qualifications or appraisal of property under this section, the assessor shall adhere to the Department's present-use value program guide. (1973, c. 709, s. 1; c. 905; c. 906, ss. 1, 2; 1975, c. 62; c. 746, ss. 3-7; 1981, c. 835; 1985, c. 518, s. 1; c. 667, ss. 5, 6; 1987, c. 45, s. 1; c. 295, s. 5; c. 698, s. 6; 1987 (Reg. Sess., 1988), c. 1044, s. 13.2; 1995, c. 443, s. 4; c. 454, s. 3; 1997-270, s. 3; 1998-98, s. 23; 1998-150, s. 1; 2001-499, s. 2; 2002-184, s. 3; 2005-313, s. 4; 2006-30, s. 4; 2008-35, s. 2.3; 2015-263, s. 12(b); 2016-76, s. 1.)

§ 105-277.5. Agricultural, horticultural and forestland – Notice of change in use.

Not later than the close of the listing period following a change which would disqualify all or a part of a tract of land receiving the benefit of this classification, the property owner shall furnish the assessor with complete information regarding such change. Any property owner who fails to notify the assessor of changes as aforesaid regarding land receiving the benefit of this classification shall be subject to a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the deferred taxes and interest thereon for each listing period for which the failure to report continues. (1973, c. 709, s. 1; 1975, c. 746, s. 8; 1987, c. 45, s. 1.)

§ 105-277.6. Agricultural, horticultural and forestland – Appraisal; computation of deferred tax.

(a) In determining the amount of the deferred taxes herein provided, the assessor shall use the appraised valuation established in the county's last general revaluation except for any changes made under the provisions of G.S. 105-287.

(b) In revaluation years, as provided in G.S. 105-286, all property entitled to classification under G.S. 105-277.3 shall be reappraised at its true value in money and at its present use value as of the effective date of the revaluation. The two valuations shall continue in effect and shall provide the basis for deferred taxes until a change in one or both of the appraisals is required by law. The present use-value schedule, standards, and rules shall be used by the tax assessor to appraise property receiving the benefit of this classification until the next general revaluation of real property in the county as required by G.S. 105-286.
(c) Repealed by Session Laws 1987, c. 295, s. 2. (1973, c. 709, s. 1; 1975, c. 746, ss. 9, 10; 1987, c. 45, s. 1, c. 295, s. 2.)

§ 105-277.7. Use-Value Advisory Board.

(a) Creation and Membership. – The Use-Value Advisory Board is established under the supervision of the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University. The Director of the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University shall serve as the chair of the Board. The Board shall consist of the following additional members, to serve ex officio:

(1) A representative of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, designated by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

(2) A representative of the North Carolina Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, designated by the Director of that Division.

(3) A representative of the Agricultural Extension Service at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, designated by the Director of the Extension Service.

(4) A representative of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., designated by the President of the Bureau.

(5) A representative of the North Carolina Association of Assessing Officers, designated by the President of the Association.

(6) The Director of the Property Tax Division of the North Carolina Department of Revenue or the Director's designee.

(7) A representative of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, designated by the President of the Association.

(8) A representative of the North Carolina Forestry Association, designated by the President of the Association.

(b) Staff. – The Agricultural Extension Service at North Carolina State University must provide clerical assistance to the Board.

(c) Duties. – The Board must annually submit to the Department of Revenue a recommended use-value manual. In developing the manual, the Board may consult with federal and State agencies as needed. The manual must contain all of the following:

(1) The estimated cash rental rates for agricultural lands and horticultural lands for the various classes of soils found in the State. The rental rates must recognize the productivity levels by class of soil or geographic area, and the crop as either agricultural or horticultural. The rental rates must be based on the rental value of the land to be used for agricultural or horticultural purposes when those uses are presumed to be the highest and best use of the land. The recommended rental rates may be established from individual county studies or from contracts with federal or State agencies as needed.

(2) The recommended net income ranges for forestland furnished to the Board by the Forestry Section of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. These net income ranges may be based on up to six classes of land within each Major Land Resource Area designated by the United States Soil Conservation Service. In developing these ranges, the Forestry Section must consider the soil productivity and indicator tree species or stand type, the average stand establishment and annual management costs, the average rotation length and timber yield, and the average timber stumpage prices.

(3) The capitalization rates adopted by the Board prior to February 1 for use in capitalizing incomes into values. The capitalization rate for forestland shall be nine percent (9%). The capitalization rate for agricultural land and horticultural land must be no less than six percent (6%) and no more than seven percent (7%). The incomes must be in the form of cash rents for agricultural lands and horticultural lands and net incomes for forestlands.

(4) The value per acre adopted by the Board for the best agricultural land. The value may not exceed one thousand two hundred dollars ($1,200).

(5) Recommendations concerning any changes to the capitalization rate for agricultural land and horticultural land and to the maximum value per acre for the best agricultural land and horticultural land based on a calculation to be determined by the Board. The Board shall annually report these recommendations to the Revenue Laws Study Committee and to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(6) Recommendations concerning requirements for horticultural land used to produce evergreens intended for use as Christmas trees when requested to do so by the Department. (1973, c. 709, s. 1; 1975, c. 746, s. 11; 1985, c. 628, s. 2; 1989, c. 727, s. 218(44); c. 736, s. 2; 1997-261, s. 109; 1997-443, s. 11A.119(a); 2002-184, s. 4; 2005-313, s. 5; 2005-386, s. 1.3; 2011-145, s. 13.25(oo); 2013-155, s. 7.)

§ 105-277.15. Taxation of wildlife conservation land.

(a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Business entity. – Defined in G.S. 105-277.2.

(2) Family business entity. – A business entity whose members are, directly or indirectly, individuals and are relatives. An individual is indirectly a member of a business entity if the individual is a member of a business entity or a beneficiary of a trust that is part of the ownership structure of the business entity.

(3) Family trust. – A trust that was created by an individual and whose beneficiaries are, directly or indirectly, individuals who are the creator of the trust or a relative of the creator. An individual is indirectly a beneficiary of a trust if the individual is a beneficiary of another trust or a member of a business entity that has a beneficial interest in the trust.

(4) Member. – Defined in G.S. 105-277.2.

(5) Relative. – Defined in G.S. 105-277.2.

(b) Classification. – Wildlife conservation land is designated a special class of property under Article V, Section 2(2) of the North Carolina Constitution and must be appraised, assessed, and taxed in accordance with this section. Wildlife conservation land classified under this section must be appraised and assessed as if it were classified under G.S. 105-277.3 as agricultural land.

(c) Requirements. – Land qualifies as wildlife conservation land if it meets the following size, ownership, and use requirements:

(1) Size. – The land must consist of at least 20 contiguous acres.

(2) Ownership. – The land must be owned by an individual, a family business entity, or a family trust and must have been owned by the same owner for the previous five years, except as follows:

a. If the land is owned by a family business entity, the land meets the ownership requirement if the land was owned by one or more members of the family business entity for the required time.

b. If the land is owned by a family trust, the land meets the ownership requirement if the land was owned by one or more beneficiaries of the family trust for the required time.

c. If an owner acquires land that was classified as wildlife conservation land under this section when it was acquired and the owner continues to use the land as wildlife conservation land, then the land meets the ownership requirement if the new owner files an application and signs the wildlife habitat conservation agreement in effect for the property within 60 days after acquiring the property.

(3) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning before July 1, 2019)** Use. – The land must meet all of the following requirements:

a. The land must be managed under a written wildlife habitat conservation agreement with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission that is in effect as of January 1

of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed and that requires the owner to do one or more of the following:

1. Protect an animal species that lives on the land and, as of January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed, is on a North Carolina protected animal list published by the Commission under G.S. 113-333.

2. Conserve any of the following priority animal wildlife habitats: longleaf pine forest, early successional habitat, small wetland community, stream and riparian zone, rock outcrop, or bat cave.

b. It must have been classified under G.S. 105-277.3 when the wildlife habitat conservation agreement was signed or the owner must demonstrate to both the Wildlife Resources Commission and the assessor that the owner used the land for a purpose specified in the signed wildlife habitat conservation agreement for three years preceding the January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed.

(3) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2019)** Use. – The land must meet all of the following requirements:

a. The land must be managed under a written wildlife habitat conservation agreement with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission that is in effect as of January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed and that requires the owner to do one or more of the following:

1. Protect an animal species that lives on the land and, as of January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed, is on a North Carolina protected animal list published by the Commission under G.S. 113-333.

2. Conserve any of the following priority animal wildlife habitats: longleaf pine forest, early successional habitat, small wetland community, stream and riparian zone, rock outcrop, or bat cave.

3. Create and actively and regularly use as a reserve for hunting, fishing, shooting, wildlife observation, or wildlife activities, provided that the land is inspected by a certified wildlife biologist at least quintennially to ensure that at least three of the seven activities listed in this sub-sub-subdivision are maintained to propagate a sustaining breeding, migrating, or wintering population of indigenous wild animals for human use, including food, medicine, or recreation. The Commission shall adopt rules needed to administer the inspection requirements of and activities mandated by this sub-sub-subdivision. [The activities are as follows:]

I. Supplemental food.

II. Supplemental water.

III. Supplemental shelter.

IV. Habitat control.

V. Erosion control.

VI. Predator control.

VII. Census of animal population on the land.

b. For land used pursuant to sub-sub-subdivisions 1. or 2. of sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision, it must have been classified under G.S. 105-277.3 when the wildlife habitat conservation agreement was signed or the owner must demonstrate to both the Wildlife Resources Commission and the assessor that the owner used the land for a purpose specified in the signed wildlife habitat conservation agreement for three years preceding the January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed.

(d) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning before July 1, 2019)** Restrictions. – The following restrictions apply to the classification allowed under this section:

(1) No more than 100 acres of an owner's land in a county may be classified under this section.

(2) Land owned by a business entity is not eligible for classification under this section if the business entity is a corporation whose shares are publicly traded or one of its members is a corporation whose shares are publicly traded.

(d) **(Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2019)** Restrictions. – The following restrictions apply to the classification allowed under this section:

(1) For land used pursuant to sub-sub-subdivision 3. of sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section, no more than 800 acres of an owner's land in a county may be classified under this section. For all other land classified under this section, no more than 100 acres of an owner's land in a county may be classified under this section.

(2) Land owned by a business entity is not eligible for classification under this section if the business entity is a corporation whose shares are publicly traded or one of its members is a corporation whose shares are publicly traded.

(e) Deferred Taxes. – The difference between the taxes that are due on wildlife conservation land classified under this section and that would be due if the land were taxed on the basis of its true value is a lien on the property. The difference in taxes must be carried forward in the records of each taxing unit as deferred taxes. The deferred taxes for the preceding three fiscal years are due and payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.1F when the land loses its eligibility for deferral as a result of a disqualifying event. A disqualifying event occurs when the property no longer qualifies as wildlife conservation land.

(f) Exceptions to Payment. – No deferred taxes are due in the following circumstances and the deferred taxes remain a lien on the land:

(1) When the owner of wildlife conservation land that was previously classified under G.S. 105-277.3 before the wildlife habitat conservation agreement was signed does not transfer the land and the land again becomes eligible for classification under G.S. 105-277.3. In this circumstance, the deferred taxes are payable in accordance with G.S. 105-277.3.

(2) When land that is classified under this section is transferred to an owner who signed the wildlife habitat conservation agreement in effect for the land at the time of the transfer and the land remains classified under this section. In this circumstance, the deferred taxes are payable in accordance with this section.

(g) Exceptions to Payment and Lien. – Notwithstanding subsection (e) of this section, if land loses its eligibility for deferral solely due to one of the following reasons, no deferred taxes are due and the lien for the deferred taxes is extinguished:

(1) The property is conveyed by gift to a nonprofit organization and qualifies for exclusion from the tax base under G.S. 105-275(12) or G.S. 105-275(29).

(2) The property is conveyed by gift to the State, a political subdivision of the State, or the United States.

(h) Administration. – An owner who applies for the classification allowed under this section must attach a copy of the owner's written wildlife habitat agreement required under subsection (c) of this section. An owner who fails to notify the county assessor when land classified under this section loses its eligibility for classification is subject to a penalty in the amount set in G.S. 105-277.5. (2008-171, s. 1; 2018-95, s. 1.)

§ 105-277.1F. Uniform provisions for payment of deferred taxes.

(a) Scope. – This section applies to the following deferred tax programs:

(1) G.S. 105-275(12), real property owned by a nonprofit corporation held as a protected natural area.

(1a) G.S. 105-275(29a), historic district property held as future site of historic structure.

(2) G.S. 105-277.1B, the property tax homestead circuit breaker.

(2a) **(See note for repeal)** G.S. 105-277.1D, the inventory property tax deferral.

(3) G.S. 105-277.4(c), present-use value property.

(4) G.S. 105-277.14, working waterfront property.

(4a) G.S. 105-277.15, wildlife conservation land.

(4b) G.S. 105-277.15A, site infrastructure land.

(5) G.S. 105-278(b), historic property.

(6) G.S. 105-278.6(e), nonprofit property held as future site of low- or moderate-income housing.

(b) Payment. – Taxes deferred on property under a deferral program listed in subsection (a) of this section are due and payable on the day the property loses its eligibility for the deferral program as a result of a disqualifying event. If only a part of property for which taxes are deferred loses its eligibility for deferral, the assessor must determine the amount of deferred taxes that apply to that part and that amount is due and payable. Interest accrues on deferred taxes as if they had been payable on the dates on which they would have originally become due.

The tax for the fiscal year that begins in the calendar year in which the deferred taxes are due and payable is computed as if the property had not been classified for that year. A lien for deferred taxes is extinguished when the taxes are paid.

All or part of the deferred taxes that are not due and payable may be paid to the tax collector at any time without affecting the property's eligibility for deferral. A partial payment is applied first to accrued interest. (2008-35, s. 2.2; 2008-107, s. 28.11(h); 2008-171, s. 2; 2009-308, s. 3; 2011-274, s. 2; 2012-79, s. 1.9; 2013-130, s. 3.)

§ 105-289. Duties of Department of Revenue.

(a) It is the duty of the Department of Revenue:

(5) To prepare and distribute annually to each assessor the manual developed by the Use-Value Advisory Board under G.S. 105-277.7 that establishes the cash rental rates for agricultural lands and horticultural lands and the net income ranges for forestland.

(6) To establish requirements for horticultural land, used to produce evergreens intended for use as Christmas trees, in lieu of a gross income requirement until evergreens are harvested from the land, and to establish a gross income requirement for this type horticultural land, that differs from the income requirement for other horticultural land, when evergreens are harvested from the land.

(7) To conduct studies of the cash rents for agricultural and horticultural lands on a county or a regional basis, such as the Major Land Resource Area map designated and developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The results of the studies must be furnished to the North Carolina Use-Value Advisory Board. The studies may be conducted on any reasonable basis and timetable that will be reflective of rents and values for each local area based on the productivity of the land.

§ 105-296. Powers and duties of assessor.

(j) The assessor must annually review at least one eighth of the parcels in the county classified for taxation at present-use value to verify that these parcels qualify for the

classification. By this method, the assessor must review the eligibility of all parcels classified for taxation at present-use value in an eight-year period. The period of the review process is based on the average of the preceding three years' data. The assessor may request assistance from the Farm Service Agency, the Cooperative Extension Service, the North Carolina Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or other similar organizations.

§ 40A-6. Reimbursement of owner for taxes paid on condemned property.

(a) An owner whose property is totally taken in fee simple by a condemnor exercising the power of eminent domain, under this Chapter or any other statute, shall be entitled to reimbursement from the condemnor of the pro rata portion of real property taxes paid by the owner that are allocable to a period subsequent to vesting of title in the condemnor, or the effective date of possession of the real property, whichever is earlier.

(b) An owner who meets the following conditions is entitled to reimbursement from the condemnor for all deferred taxes paid by the owner pursuant to G.S. 105-277.4(c) as a result of the condemnation:

(1) The owner is a natural person whose property is taken in fee simple by a condemnor exercising the power of eminent domain under this Chapter or any other statute.

(2) The owner also owns agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland that is contiguous to the condemned property and that is in active production.

The definitions in G.S. 105-277.2 apply in this subsection. (1975, c. 439, s. 1; 1981, c. 919, s. 1; 1997-270, s. 1.)

§ 136-121.1. Reimbursement of owner for taxes paid on condemned property.

(a) A property owner whose property is totally taken in fee simple by any condemning agency (as defined in G.S. 133-7(1)) exercising the power of eminent domain, under this Chapter or any other statute or charter provision, shall be entitled to reimbursement from the condemning agency of the pro rata portion of real property taxes paid that are allocable to a period subsequent to vesting of title in the agency, or the effective date of possession of the real property, whichever is earlier.

(b) An owner who meets the following conditions is entitled to reimbursement from the condemning agency for all deferred taxes paid by the owner pursuant to G.S. 105-277.4(c) as a result of the condemnation:

(1) The owner is a natural person whose property is taken in fee simple by a condemning agency exercising the power of eminent domain under this Chapter or any other statute.

(2) The owner also owns agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland that is contiguous to the condemned property and that is in active production.

A potential condemning agency that seeks to acquire property by gift or purchase shall give the owner written notice of the provisions of this section. The definitions in G.S. 105-277.2 apply in this subsection. (1975, c. 439, s. 1; 1997-270, s. 2.)

NOTE: The following statutes are relevant only to annexation situations, and are not relevant to qualifying a parcel for present-use valuation.

§ 160A-58.54. Character of area to be annexed.

(c) As used in this subsection, "bona fide farm purposes" is as described in G.S. 153A-340. As used in this subsection, "property" means a single tract of property or an identifiable portion of a single tract. Property that is being used for bona fide farm purposes on the date of the resolution of intent to consider annexation may not be annexed without the written consent of the owner or owners of the property. (2011-396, s. 9; 2011-363, s. 3.1.)

NOTE: The following section is a part of Chapter 153A (Counties), Article 18 (Planning and Regulation of Development).

§ 153A-340. Grant of power.

(b) (2) Except as provided in G.S. 106-743.4 for farms that are subject to a conservation agreement under G.S. 106-743.2, bona fide farm purposes include the production and activities relating or incidental to the production of crops, grains, fruits, vegetables, ornamental and flowering plants, dairy, livestock, poultry, and all other forms of agriculture, as defined in G.S. 106-581.1. Activities incident to the farm include existing or new residences constructed to the applicable residential building code situated on the farm occupied by the owner, lessee, or operator of the farm and other buildings or structures sheltering or supporting the farm use and operation. For purposes of this subdivision, "when performed on the farm" in G.S. 106-581.1(6) shall include the farm within the jurisdiction of the county and any other farm owned or leased to or from others by the bona fide farm operator, no matter where located. For purposes of this subdivision, the production of a nonfarm product that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services recognizes as a "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" product that is produced on a farm subject to a conservation agreement under G.S. 106-743.2 is a bona fide farm purpose. For purposes of determining whether a property is being used for bona fide farm purposes, any of the following shall constitute sufficient evidence that the property is being used for bona fide farm purposes:

a. A farm sales tax exemption certificate issued by the Department of Revenue.

b. A copy of the property tax listing showing that the property is eligible for participation in the present use value program pursuant to G.S. 105-277.3.

c. A copy of the farm owner's or operator's Schedule F from the owner's or operator's most recent federal income tax return.

d. A forest management plan.

e. Repealed by Session Laws 2017-108, s. 8(a), effective July 12, 2017.